

# Deana Boyd Named Employee of the Year



Deana Boyd

Deana Boyd, a visual information specialist at ATC, was recently honored at the annual Harford County Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities at the Maryland Golf and Country Club.

Boyd was named the Harford County, Maryland, Public Employee of the Year for 2004!

In her current position, Boyd uses a variety of computer and artistic skills to update Web pages, monitor e-mail, and respond to customer questions and problems.

Outside ATC, Boyd has worked with the Havre de Grace Recreation Council, where her efforts to establish a safe park for skateboarders have been recognized by the mayor.

According to Col. Mary Brown, ATC's commander, Boyd's "exceptional performance, inspiration, and perseverance coupled with her professionalism and cooperative spirit have proven her to be an outstanding civil servant and a very deserving candidate for this award."

The Harford County Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities honors individuals and groups who promote the hiring of persons with disabilities as productive members of today's work force. The Employee of the Year award is given to an individual with a disability who has exhibited exceptional ability and determination in entering or reentering the workforce or maintaining employment. ●

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## Developmental Test Command Gains New Commander



Brig. Gen. Michael Combest

The U.S. Army Developmental Test Command (DTC) bid farewell to Brig. Gen. Keith McNamara, commander since Aug. 2002, and welcomed his successor, Brig. Gen. Michael Combest, during a change of command ceremony in front of DTC headquarters on Oct. 27.

Brig. Gen. Michael Combest comes from an assignment with the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium. During his assignment at SHAPE, Combest was chief of defense planning for the Allied Command Transformation Planning Element Europe.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Combest has held a variety of command and staff assignments in the United States and abroad.

## Aberdeen Test Center Announces New Technical Director



John R. Wallace

John R. Wallace has become the permanent Technical Director for Aberdeen Test Center effective November 1, 2004. He has been serving in an acting capacity since June 2004. Wallace succeeds Jim Fasig, who retired in May 2004 after 42 years of Federal service.

Wallace has over 35 years of experience in testing and has most recently served as Director of the Automotive Core where he was one of the key people responsible for the success of important programs to include Stryker and Up-armor.

"His vision and expertise will be invaluable in posturing the command for future success," said Col. Mary Brown, ATC commander.



## From the ATC Commander

by Colonel Mary Brown, Commander, Aberdeen Test Center



Col. Mary K. Brown

In January, ATC underwent reorganization. For the most part, these changes will be transparent to our customers. ATC reorganized for several reasons. First of all, we adopted the more traditional organizational structure of directorates, divisions, and teams. This will make it easier for our customers to understand our organizational layout. The reorganization also consolidates current and future technology initiatives in one directorate, improves daily operations by consolidating planning and operations in one directorate, and creates an information technology development capability. An organization chart will be available on our website in the near future.

In addition to reorganizing, we've been busy upgrading current facilities and developing new ones. In previous editions of the Globe, we've told you about the Littoral Warfare Environment (LWE) that is under construction. The LWE has been dug to its final depth and all the footers and temporary walls have been built and installed. The wave generator wall and permanent side wall are under construction and scheduled to be completed in several months. The wave generator will be installed later this fiscal year and the facility will be open for testing in Oct 05.

The Soldiers' System Test Facility (SSTF) has also made great progress. Though construction is still ongoing, SSTF has already conducted testing and has tests scheduled throughout FY05. Its variety of ranges allows for concurrent multiple uses as well as the capability to network with other range facilities at ATC and satellite locations. The Data Acquisition and Control Center is completed and the Indoor and Outdoor Firing Range buildings are scheduled for completion in Feb 05. The 500m popup target range is scheduled for completion in Jun 05. Initial Military Operations Urban Terrain (MOUT) capability will be available in Mar 05; expanded MOUT in Jun 05. The Human Factors building is under contract and the remaining buildings will be placed on contract this year.

The Roadway Simulator has been in operation for approximately 1 1/2 years. Over that time, the simulator has been used to test the safety and performance of military and commercial vehicles up to class 6 trucks. Vehicles tested included up-armored vehicles for operations in Iraq, specialty vehicles for homeland defense, excavators, commercial vehicles, and one motor sport vehicle. Since this was a completely new experience for ATC, and in fact the U.S. vehicle test community, these tests were conducted concurrently with staff development and training, development of operation and maintenance procedures, simulator data verification, and integration of phases 2 and 3 of

the simulator. Phase 2 (for tandem axle trucks) has been completed, and Phase 3 (for tractor trailer combinations) will be completed in two parts throughout this calendar year. An initial phase 3 capability will be demonstrated this upcoming June, and full phase 3 hardware will be installed and demonstrated late in the calendar year.

You may remember that in Oct 02 we held a ribbon cutting for the Standardized Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Technology Demonstration Site, which tests the capabilities of ground based UXO detection systems. Building off of that success, the U.S. Army Environmental Quality Technology Program is funding the construction of the Shallow Water Standardized UXO Site. This facility will provide the Department of Defense with a standardized test bed to determine the capabilities and limitations of UXO detection and discrimination water based systems. Designed to allow the test director to manipulate the water depths between 0 and 10 feet creating a footprint of 3-7 acres depending on the selected depth, the Shallow Water UXO Site is made up of a calibration grid, a blind test grid made up of 600 opportunities, and an open water scenario. Within the open water scenario a variety of challenges exist to include navigational hazards. The U.S. Army Environmental Center is serving as the programmatic lead for the construction of this innovative facility, which is expected to open in Mar 05 with testing to begin in Apr 05. ●

## Technical Director's Corner

by John R. Wallace, Technical Director, Aberdeen Test Center



John R. Wallace

First of all, I'd like to acknowledge what an honor it is to be selected as ATC's Technical Director. ATC is truly the most diverse test facility within the Department of Defense and great things are accomplished here each and every day. I am looking forward to supporting the command as we posture for the future while at the same time continuing to support the Warfighter and the War Effort.

ATC began to posture the command to be able to successfully test the new and emerging technologies associated with Future Force/Future Combat Systems (FCS) by establishing the Future Force Directorate in May 2002. Future Force is working a number of efforts in preparation for FCS testing.

Those efforts will include constructing and implementing the command's Distributed Test

Control Center (DTCC), the key interface required to support distributed testing in support of FCS, and the construction of the FCS Common Control Node (CCN) at Aberdeen, a Systems Integration Laboratory (SIL) requested by the FCS Lead Systems Integrator (LSI), Boeing. The CCN will be a testing cornerstone required for the system-of-systems integration essential to the fielding of the FCS variants.

In addition, ATC will have Line-of-Sight (LOS) and Beyond Line-of-Sight (BLOS) ranges; a research and development range for active protection testing; a hybrid electric propulsion test laboratory; a test course/area for the testing of unmanned ground vehicles and a fully operational facility for the testing of the soldier as a system and the soldiers integration into the FCS network.

We will also have completed designing and implementing six degree of freedom shakers in support of road, shock and vibration testing of logistic payloads as well as new pedestals for the

Roadway Simulator to support unmanned ground vehicles testing and FCS Manned Ground Vehicle (MGV) variants.

ATC will have the ability to test FCS network traffic/communications operations using tools developed and operated by the Electronic Proving Ground (EPG) through a partnership and the inter-range and intra-range connectivity requirements of the ATEC Test Integration Network (ATIN) will be fully implemented.

We are using accomplishments with digital imaging and expanding the Virtual Information System, Integrated ONLine (VISION) in order to link to other test centers to leverage resources to conduct FCS Net-centric testing. Information will flow from ATC through the DTCC to other ranges and back, bringing other ranges into the test scenario and expanding ATC's reach.

The result of these efforts will ensure that ATC is fully prepared to support all aspects of FCS, during all spirals. ●



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Commander COL Mary K. Brown  
Editor Vonnie Hughey

Technical Director John R. Wallace  
Design International Imaging Center



## ATC Awards Employees for Slat Armor Efforts

Col. Mary K. Brown, ATC commander, presented 136 government and mission support contract employees with awards for the exemplary manner in which they supported the accelerated design, development, fabrication, testing and fielding of slat armor for eight Stryker variants.

“It took a lot of people doing a lot of different things to make this a success,” said Brown.

Slat Armor, a cooperative effort between ATC, Program Manager – Brigade Combat Team, the Developmental Test Command, the Army Research Laboratory and General Dynamics, was designed, fabricated, installed and tested for eight Stryker vehicle configurations in just seven weeks.

Each configuration was designed with minimal if any impact to the functional aspects of the vehicle such as stowage of ammunition and independent rear door and ramp operations. In some cases, improvements were made to the baseline vehicle. For example, the driver’s field of view on the Fire Support Vehicle (FSV) was improved by raising the smoke grenade launcher.

All configurations were addressed with respect to human factors and modified accordingly.

“Slat armor has done what we said it was going to do,” said



Brown. “It has stopped RPG’s. [Soldiers] might have been shaken up, but they’ve been able to go on with their mission and on with their lives.”

ATC fabricated the first 20 Infantry Carrier Vehicle kits that were sent to Ft. Lewis, Washington for installation and training. ATC personnel provided on-site instruction for nearly two weeks to train the installation team and to work out any remaining installation issues.

“Sending kits to Ft. Lewis allowed soldiers to train...,” said Brown, “but more important is that you’ve saved, and continue to save, lives.”

ATC also assisted the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) in the development of the installation manuals for each variant and coordinated with Lima Army Tank

*Stryker vehicles equipped with slat armor from 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, position themselves in the town of Samarra, a town northwest of Baghdad in December 2003. File photo. "Photo Courtesy of U.S. Army" by Sgt. Jeremy Heckler*

Plant to build the remaining kits needed for deployment, providing support by fabricating approximately 5,000 parts for the next set of armor kits.

“Thank you very much for your great achievement,” said Brown. “You are saving lives, and not many people can say that.”

Article provided by **Susan Hagan**, ATSS, ATC Public Affairs Liaison. ●

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## Army National Guard Director Receives PEO Soldier Overview at ATC

Army National Guard Director Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz, accompanied by Maj. Gen. Bill Ingram, North Carolina, the Adjutant General (NC TAG), Chairperson of the Adjutant General Association of the United States (AGAUS) Army Mod Task Force, visited ATC for a Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier demonstration of the XM8.

During the visit, Schultz received a briefing on PEO Soldier and had the opportunity to fire several of the new weapons systems that are currently being tested at ATC.

Deputy PEO for PEO Soldier Mr. Rash provided Schultz with an overview of PEO Soldier. PEO Soldier, also known as “Team Soldier” was established in 2002 and is broken down into three Project Managers (PM) Offices: Soldier Warrior, Soldier Equipment and Soldier Weapons.

“If you wear it as a Soldier, we provide it,” said Rash. “If you like it, we’ll hear about it, and if you don’t like it, we’ll hear that, too, and we’ll do our best to improve it.”

One of PEO Soldier’s programs discussed during the briefing was the Rapid Fielding Initiative (RFI).

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*Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz fires the XM 307 25mm Advanced Crew Served Machine Gun during his visit to the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center.*



*Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz fires the XM-8 Designated Marksman/Automatic Rifle under the guidance of Staff Sgt. Reginald Freeman at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center.*

RFI was launched in 2002 by PEO Soldier to quickly provide units and soldiers deployed/ deploying to Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom with the individual equipment necessary to complete their missions.

“We’ve done a really great job of equipping the total force with this,” Rash explained.

PEO Soldier’s goal is to finish outfitting the Army by the end of 2007. According to Rash, so far PEO Soldier is on track to meet that goal.

“The attitudes in the ranks change when this stuff is issued...,” said Schultz. “Command Sergeant Majors and the ranks will tell you this.”

After the briefings, Schultz was given the opportunity to fire many of the weapons including the XM307 Advanced crew Served Weapon, the Common Remotely Operated Weapon Station (CROWS), and all three variants of the XM8.

“We need to modernize the fleet of weapons,” said Rash.

The XM8 comes in three variants: the baseline carbine, the compact carbine and the designated marksman/automatic rifle, and may replace the M16/M4 family of weapons.

According to Lt. Col. Matthew Clarke, PM Individual Weapons, “The average Soldier will be able to take this weapon [the XM8] out of the box and use it.”

Article provided by **Susan Hagan**, ATSS, ATC Public Affairs Liaison. ●

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# ATC Employees Honored with Awards



The **Crozier Award** was presented to **Sergeant First Class James Mical, Jr.** from the Warfighter Core. Accepting for SFC Mical was John Ruhl, director of the ATC Warfighter Core. SFC Mical has provided exceptional support of the Rapid Fielding Initiative for PEO Soldier. When PEO Soldier requested ATC soldier support, SFC Mical volunteered without hesitation and was deployed from April to December 2004. His dedication to this effort has been noteworthy and he has been commended by PEO Soldier for his tireless efforts.



The **Fritter Award**, presented to an employee who provides exceptional administrative support to ATC, is named for the late Richard W. Fritter, a former ATC Budget Analyst. This year's award was presented to **Marti Lovely**, an analyst with the Resource Management Team. Lovely has displayed limitless capacity for absorbing and understanding a myriad of complex issues. In an extremely short time, she has become very familiar with the Army Benefits Center for Civilians (ABC-C) and serves as an excellent liaison with ABC-C for the ATC workforce.



The **Nichols Award**, named in memory of the late Charles W. Nichols, whose accomplishments epitomize the contributions made by ATC technicians, was presented to **Richard Kimball**, a senior test director for the Fire Control Team, Automotive Core. He has been an invaluable asset to the Stryker production verification test program and through his efforts, numerous important technical issues were uncovered and improvements made. He is a wealth of information that the entire Stryker team repeatedly looks to for guidance.



The **Commander's Quality Award** was presented to an ATC team for continued high-quality achievements. The **Automation Inspection System/Explosive Detection Systems Program Team** (Charles Simpson, Brian Berry, Debra Furnari, Dave Johnson, Robin Gibson, Walt Vuncannon, Danny Beavers, Mark Mullin, John Jacobs, Terry Shipley, Robert Caudill, Bruce Donald, James Bach, Chris Thomson, Bob Brown, Aubrey Edwards, Billy White, William Bolt, Paul Klara; and from Aberdeen Test Support Services: Donnie Forsythe, Wayne Corbin, Jesse Rommel, Randy Weeks, Calvin Wilson, Carl Johnson, Bret Schrader, Sue Lipple, Joe Solomon, Justin Thomas, George Eason, Ricardo Lynn, Joe Hallameyer, George Lazzaro, John Hayes, Frank Johnson, Al Lewis, Gene Warnick, and Max Conner) earned the award for outstanding support and dedication for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Battelle Memorial Laboratories. Both the TSA and Battelle partners could not be any happier with the results and actions of the ATC team. The team's efforts are a shining example of the creativity, flexibility, and innovative use of facilities and experience.

*Recently, a number of employees at Aberdeen Test Center were honored at the ATC Annual Awards Ceremony held at the Post Theater. The award nominations received for these awards reflect broad workforce participation and brought to our attention many outstanding candidates and their respective accomplishments.*



The **Group Safety Award** recognizes performance by a group of ATC employees that have demonstrated continuous, outstanding and significant contributions to the safety program. The Group Safety Award was presented to the **Automotive Operations Safety Leadership Team** (Don Harris, Barry KeFauver, Robert Hannibal, Noah Shroul; and from Aberdeen Test Support Services: Bill Hollar, Shannon Grove, Tom Rucker, Terry Spickler, Keith Edwards, Michael Bentrup, and Eugene Faulkner.) The Automotive Operations Safety Leadership Team was formed to promote safety in the automotive operations workplace to include drivers and mechanics, both contractor and government personnel. The team has been instrumental in providing training for approximately 100 employees in conducting observations for their coworkers.



The **Technical Director's Award** recognizes authors with ATC for outstanding technical papers or reports on topics pertinent to the test and evaluation mission. The recipient of the Technical Director's award is **Skip Connon**. The Stryker Reports Team, led by Skip Connon, produced eight variant reports over a nine-month period covering two years worth of testing of 20 vehicles, totaling 12,000 pages. The team was responsible for researching testing that had occurred, assembling all pertinent information, and transcribing the information into the final reports.



The **Commander's Award** was presented to **Dr. Gregory Schultz**, a General Engineer with the Automotive Instrumentation Team, Automotive Core. The award is presented for outstanding individual achievement on a technical project or study. Schultz's true leadership and vision has been realized by the first operation of our Roadway Simulator, the largest facility of this type in the world. His involvement with the prime contractor in designing the system was instrumental in the delivery of a very flexible, efficient, and effective system that will be ATC's automotive crown jewel for many years to come.



The **Individual Safety Award** was presented to **William Leavitt**. Leavitt served as senior reactor engineer during operations to close the reactor. The Individual Safety Award recognizes performance by an ATC civilian or military employee that sets an example to fellow employees by continually demonstrating safe work habits and an excellent attitude towards safety, or employee performance of specific action(s) that created safe working conditions and enhanced the safety environment in the workplace.



# 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment Trains at ATC

The 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion 80<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Ordnance), or 5/80<sup>th</sup>, is taking a new approach to training that is allowing soldiers to spend less time on training aids and more time working on actual military vehicles and equipment.

ATC and the 5/80<sup>th</sup> are working jointly on a new concept that will allow soldiers

access to realistic training opportunities while at the same time saving the Army and ATC money. By combining training with maintenance requirements, it becomes a “win-win” situation for both the 5/80<sup>th</sup> and ATC. The 5/80<sup>th</sup> gains access to work on numerous light wheeled vehicles, and ATC saves dollars by having those vehicles repaired with no-cost labor.

“It’s a win-win for both ATC and this command [5/80<sup>th</sup>] because ATC receives a finished product and the students receive quality training,” said Lt. Col. John David Strickland III, commander of the 5/80<sup>th</sup>.

The mission of the 5/80<sup>th</sup> is to provide MOS reclassification training for Career Management



*Spc. Adam Becker and Spc. William Cannon work together to replace a rear differential on a HMMWV during training at the US Army Aberdeen Test Center.*

Fields 27, 55 and 63. During mobilization, they provide refresher training to individual ready reservists and support the proponent school at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), MD.

Ordinarily, training courses are conducted at the Edgewood Area (EA) of APG. These classes are broken up into two phases. The first phase is conducted primarily in a classroom environment where students learn the common core basics of mechanics. Phase two allows the students to apply their knowledge by working on vehicles, commonly referred to as “turning the wrench.” At Edgewood, the students work on training aid vehicles and equipment

provided and supported by the school at APG.

“At ATC, students have access to numerous vehicles with a complete spectrum of repairs required,” said Richard Samples, Chief of ATC’s Warfighter Team.

ATC, the most diverse test center in the Department of Defense (DoD) and a Major Range and Test Facility Base (MRTFB), is the lead DoD test center for land systems testing. Every land based vehicle since World War II has been tested on the courses at ATC.

Vehicles the 5/80<sup>th</sup> worked on during their time spent at ATC include High Mobility Multi-Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV), Commercial Utility Cargo Vehicles (CUCV), MK4 Military forklifts, M817 dump trucks, M923 cargo trucks and even an MKII bridge boat. Some of these vehicles belong to ATC or test customers, while others were damaged in Iraq and brought up to code B standards by the 5/80<sup>th</sup>. By allowing the 5/80<sup>th</sup> to train on

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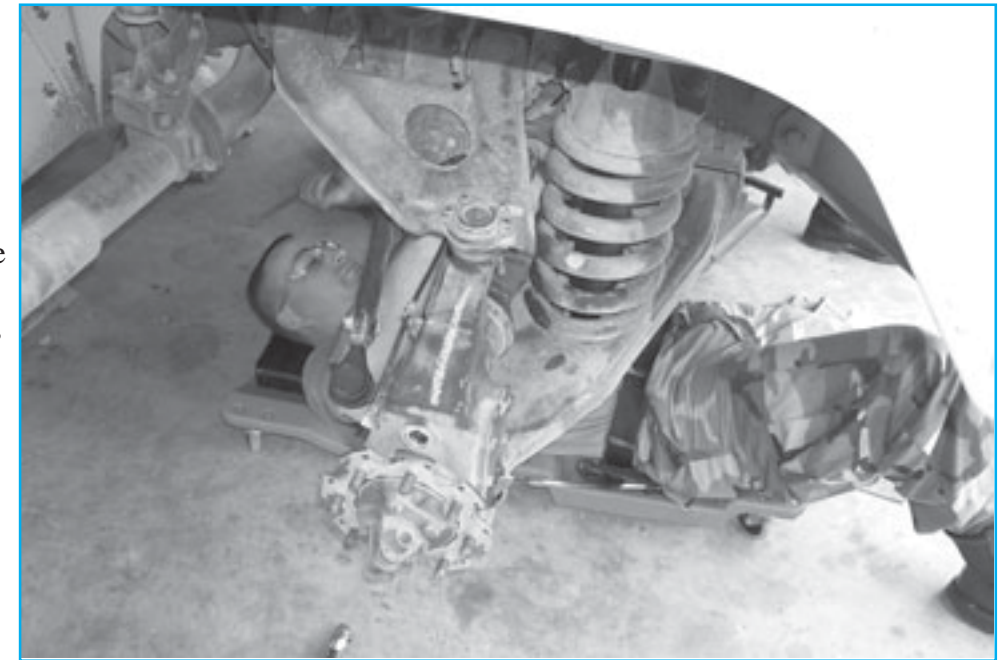
their vehicles, ATC saves the cost of having to pay for the repairs. “The government saves dollars because we have to pay individuals to do the work anyway,” said Samples.

“This is what they would do when they go back to their units,” said Sgt. First Class Langston Olivus, the primary instructor for the 63B Phase II class with the 5/80<sup>th</sup>. “This is real world training. I’m receiving a lot of positive feedback.”

According to Olivus, Soldiers may attend reclassification training to be promoted, or to pick up an additional military occupational specialty (MOS). Unlike active duty Soldiers, who usually only have one MOS, reserve Soldiers may have multiple MOSs.

“Our most difficult challenge...is scheduling access to the training aids and the equipment to [conduct] the class, while not creating a conflict of schedules with current on-going classes being instructed at Downer Hall with the Advanced Individual Training (AIT) students. We have developed a GREAT relationship with the school here at APG and we would not be able to perform our

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*Spc. William Cannon works to put a HMMWV back into Code B condition during training at the US Army Aberdeen Test Center.*

mission without their continued help and support,” said Strickland.

The idea for the 5/80<sup>th</sup> to train at ATC came from Master Sgt. Hilda Wong, a regional director for the 5/80<sup>th</sup> and a former ATC mission support contractor. Wong approached Samples last year and they began to work out the logistics. This year the group was able to hold the course at ATC. If the pilot program is successful, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be established between both organizations.

Strickland has every indication from his Soldiers that the program is proving to be a success. “Do we have to leave, sir?”, “This is great,” and “We would rather stay here” are just a few of the positive comments he has received.

This is the kind of quality training our Division Commander, Major General Douglas Dollar, encour-

ages us to develop, Strickland explained. He encourages and emphasizes that in today’s environment we must conduct our training as close to the “real world” as possible and you cannot get any closer than this.

Working on the vehicles at ATC “gives them [soldiers] the sense of accomplishment to see an end product, to see something that will go back on the range or to a customer,” Strickland said.

Classes average from 120-135 students per cycle but numbers have been down because of the war against terrorism. Cancellations due to mobilizations have left the 5/80<sup>th</sup> with only 86 students this year, but Strickland is confident that numbers will increase as units de-mobilize and return to their home station.

When a soldier has successfully completed his or her training, they have completed all the requirements to be awarded the MOS. It is up to the individual’s command to issue the orders awarding the MOS.

Article provided by **Susan Hagan**, ATSS, ATC Public Affairs Liaison. ●



## Dr. Samuel Harley Receives Bryson Award

Dr. Samuel F. Harley, a General Engineer at ATC, was awarded the Dr. Marion R. Bryson Award for Test and Evaluation Excellence at the Army T&E Days conference held recently in Huntsville, Alabama.

“It’s a big deal,” Col. Mary Brown, ATC commander, said of the award. “It involves testing excellence.”



*Dr. Samuel Harley is presented a commander's coin by Col. Mary Brown, ATC commander, as recognition for receiving the Dr. Marion R. Bryson Award for Test and Evaluation Excellence.*

photography, and project management issues.

“We believe VISION to be a giant leap forward for T&E capabilities and it is certainly gratifying to have this work recognized by others,” said Harley. “I have been singled out as the ‘VISION guy’, but I know that without the dedication and ingenuity of others working on this project we would not

have experienced the successes we have achieved...VISION successes are the result of team effort!”

The Dr. Marion R. Bryson Award for Test and Evaluation Excellence is presented to an individual who has made significant contributions to the T&E and Acquisition communities. Criteria for award nominees includes: having a minimum of 10 years experience in Army T&E, having developed and promoted innovative techniques and visionary approaches with broad applicability to T&E processes throughout his or her career, and evidence of contributions in the form of solutions to real world T&E problems resulting in measurable benefits to supported acquisition programs.

Article provided by **Susan Hagan**, ATSS, ATC Public Affairs Liaison. ●

Harley is the Principal Instrumentation Development Scientist and Program Technical Manager for the Versatile Information System Integrated, ONline (VISION) system. He is currently leading the team charged with development and deployment of VISION.

“When I was first informed of my selection for the Marion Bryson Award I had just finished reading a web article covering US Soldier activities in Afghanistan and Iraq,” Harley said. “I was hit by the realization that anything that I or the VISION team accomplishes pales in comparison to what they do every day in defense of our safety and freedom. I believe we in the T&E community play a vital role in equipping US Warfighters and that we should never forget that our only claim to relevance is tied to this role.”

VISION is a technology system for the acquisition and manage-

ment of test data that places all sources of data into a single information system that in real time provides information to all qualified parties. The system provides a comprehensive record of information to key decision-makers before the final reports are released.

VISION can be described as a three layer system. In the first or data acquisition layer, test data is collected and stored. The middle layer is the host system, which provides the interface, data collection and preliminary fusion from the data acquisition layer, and forwards it to the third layer, the VISION Digital Library (VDL), an information management system. The VDL manages and fuses information forwarded from the instrumentation as well as information regarding Reliability, Availability, Maintainability/Integrated Logistics Support, weather, video and

## Michaelsville Modernization

The Michaelsville Small Arms Test Complex is undergoing major renovations as a result of a partnership effort between ATC and PEO Soldier.

Michaelsville Building 744, which encompasses the position 5 firing point, will be undergoing a facelift to include roof replacement and the replacement of interior walls, doors and

windows. Once this is complete this building will serve as the fiber optic data and instrumentation center supporting the entire Michaelsville complex.

The Michaelsville small arms environmental chamber is also undergoing a major upgrade to include a new chamber and a ventilation system supplying fresh air flow through the chamber to mitigate the accumulation of carbon monoxide concentration levels as a result of firing weapons while maintaining temperature requirements from +150 to -65 degrees Fahrenheit.

Michaelsville will also see two buildings, Bldg 739 and 735, VOLUME 11, NUMBER 1



disappear under the wrecking ball while welcoming the construction of a Visitors Control Center and a Target Fabrication/Storage Building. The Visitors Control Center will consist of a conference area where meetings and demonstrations can be held and a training classroom facility which will support small arms new equipment training and other training opportunities. The target fabrication/storage building will provide an area to fabricate and score small arms targets while providing a storage area for specialized small arms mounts and other equipment.

In addition, the whole Michaelsville area will be undergoing an

electrical infrastructure upgrade to ensure clean power to each of the firing positions and the installation of a fiber optic data network encompassing all of the firing points as well as the small arms maintenance and repair shop.

The construction and upgrades are scheduled to last for just over a year, but when the dust settles in October 2005, ATC will possess one of the most advanced small arms testing facilities in the world.

For more information, contact **Mike Feinberg** at 410-278-3720 (DSN298), e-mail: michael.feinberg@atc.army.mil. ●